

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV, PORG, WA, SF
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: P.W. BOTHA CASTS DOUBT ON UN OBJECTIVITY

1. DEFENSE MINISTER P.W. BOTHA DELIVERED THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS
TO THE TRANSVAAL NATIONALIST PARTY CONGRESS ON THE NIGHT OF
SEPTEMBER 12. THE SPEECH, IN AFRIKAANS, WAS RELATIVELY LACKLUSTER
AND UNCONTENTIOUS AS A WHOLE. THIS IS A PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE
PORTION ON NAMIBIA TAKEN FROM NOTES. A FULLER REPORT ON THIS POR-
TION PLUS THE REMAINDER, WHICH COVERED STANDARD PARTY LINES,
WILL FOLLOW BY SEPTTEL.

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2. ON NAMIBIA, BOTHA ASSIDUOUSLY AVOIDED DIRECT MENTION OF THE
SAG RESPONSE TO THE SYG REPORT EXCEPT TO SAY THE RESPONSE HAD BEEN
FORWARDED TO THE WESTERN FIVE AND THE SAG WOULD REPLY AFTER
RECEIPT OF THE FIVE'S RESPONSE. THE MAIN THRUST OF HIS REMARKS
WAS TO COUNTER PRESS CRITICISM OF HIS TOUGH ANTI-SWAPO STATEMENT
AT THE ORANGE FREE STATE NP CONGRESS. IN A REPETITION OF HIS REMARKS

THEN, HE SAID THE SAG COULD NOT TOLERATE A SWAPO TAKEOVER IN NAMIBIA. THE SAG WOULD ALLOW THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA TO DECIDE ON THEIR FUTURE ALONG CONSTITUTIONAL LINES AND WOULD NOT ALLOW "MARXIST TERRORISTS" TO TAKE OVER. THIS STATEMENT, WHICH HE SAID HAD CAUSED THE PRESS ATTACKS, HE FELT ENTITLED TO MAKE.

3. BOTHA WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE SAG'S ENEMIES WERE USING SWAPO TO BRING A MARXIST STATE INTO BEING "AGAINST THE WILL OF THE MAJORITY". HE LUMPED THE UN AND SAG'S "ENEMIES" TOGETHER AND SAID IT WAS THEIR VIEW THAT NAMIBIA DID NOT BELONG TO THE PEOPLE BUT TO THE "MARXIST TERRORIST SAM NUJOMA." HE ADDED THAT IT WAS APPARENT FROM RECENT DECISIONS AND STATEMENTS THAT THE UN WAS ON SWAPO'S SIDE.

4. COMMENT: BOTHA DID NOT REVEAL THE SAG'S RESPONSE BUT GAVE A CLEAR INDICATION THAT AT LEAST HE PERSONALLY, AND MAYBE THE CABINET, HAD GRAVE DOUBTS ABOUT THE UN'S OBJECTIVITY TOWARDS SWAPO.
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